



Patent **AF** ~~AF~~  
Attorney Docket No. 1032221-000058 **IFW**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )

Laurie Eskola )

Application No.: 10/528,769 )

Filing Date: April 19, 2005 )

Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR )  
EXCLUDING ENTRY OF DEBRIS )  
INTO AN OUTER SEAL OF A SHAFT )  
PASSING THROUGH THE HULL OF A )  
MARITIME VESSEL )

Group Art Unit: 3617

Examiner: EDWIN L. SWINEHART

Confirmation No.: 4689

**THIRD  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 28, 2007

Sir:

Enclosed is a THIRD Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- ☐ The fee of \$ 180 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- ☐ A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- ☒ A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$ 180 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.
- ☐ Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.
- ☐ Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date March 28, 2007

By:   
Ellen Marcie Emas  
Registration No. 32131

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404  
703 836 6620



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
)  
Laurie Eskola ) Group Art Unit: 3617  
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Application No.: 10/528,769 ) Examiner: EDWIN L. SWINEHART  
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Filed: April 19, 2005 ) Confirmation No.: 4689  
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For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR )  
EXCLUDING ENTRY OF DEBRIS INTO )  
AN OUTER SEAL OF A SHAFT )  
PASSING THROUGH THE HULL OF A )  
MARITIME VESSEL )

**THIRD INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 28, 2007

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information was cited in a corresponding Chinese patent application on March 6, 2007 and is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted after a first Office Action on the merits but prior to the closing of prosecution, therefore under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed.

A fee of \$ 180 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed.

I, the undersigned, hereby state in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

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I, the undersigned, hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement contains information which is not in the English language but was cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. In accordance with MPEP § 609 III A(3), an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted herewith.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: March 28, 2007

By: 

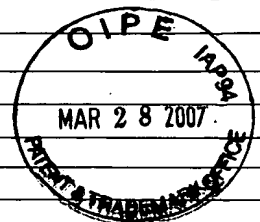
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(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	10/528,769
Filing Date	April 19, 2005
First Named Inventor	Laurie Eskola
Examiner Name	EDWIN L. SWINEHART
Attorney Docket No.	1032221-000058

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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
	Chinese Office Action dated March 6, 2007.

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.